

REMARKS

Prior to entry of this paper, claims 1-5 and 7-30 are currently pending. In addition, claims 1-5 and 7-30 are allowed. In this paper, dependent claim 22 is amended. No new matter is added by way of this amendment. For at least the following reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of amended dependent claim 22.

Applicants' representative conducted an Examiner's Interview on March 24, 2008 to discuss the proposed amendment to dependent claim 22. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for taking the time to discuss the proposed amendment.

In the discussion, the Applicants' representative pointed out that the amendment to dependent claim 22 is fully supported by the specification as originally filed at least at page 16, lines 23-30. In particular, the specification discloses that "when a traffic management device performs an address and/or port translation of the source fields, destination fields, or both, the resulting port number is a self-source port number that enables the selection of the targeted traffic management device." The specification further discloses that the self-source port number may be solved for iteratively. "That is, $STD (IP\ address, X) = target\ traffic\ management\ device\ ID$ is iteratively solved for X." Such discussion is reflected in the amendment to dependent claim 22.

Thus, the amendment for dependent claim 22 is fully supported within the specification as originally filed, and adds no new matter. Moreover, because dependent claim 22 depends from allowed independent claim 16, dependent claim 22 remains allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 16. Thus, the Applicants request prompt allowance of amended claim 22.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 04-0100 referencing docket no. 08204/1200311-US2.

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Respectfully submitted,

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